Purchase of anti-T.B. drugs

758. SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN:

DR. JOSEPH LEON D'SOUZA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the total amount spent on anti-T.B. drugs during the last three years, year-wise with details of each T.B. drug, quantity purchased, price per pack and strength as well as name of the drug company on whom orders were placed; and

(b) whether it is a fact that second line anti-T.B. drugs were purchased, if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Statements giving the information are enclosed as Annexure-I and Annexure-II. [*See* Appendix CXXXVIII, Annexure Nos. 16 and 17]

(b) During the earlier years, after the discovery of various anti-T.B. drugs, these were termed as first line or second line anti-T.B. drugs. Drugs like Streptomycin, INH, Thiacetazone and PAS were considered as first line anti-TB Drugs while drugs like Rifampicin, Pyrazinamide, Ethambutol, Cyclosarine, Ethionamide and Kanamycin etc. were considered as second line anti-TB drugs. In the later years, with the gaining of more knowledge of the effectiveness and use of the anti-TB drugs in treatment of TB patients, drugs line Rifampicin, Pyrazinamide and Ethambutol which were termed as second line anti-TB drugs and which were earlier used generally for treatment of only those TB patients who have developed resistance to drugs like Streptomycin, PAS and Thia-cetazone are now being advocated for treatment of freshly diagnosed TB patients. Out of these group of drugs, during the last 3 years, only Ethambutol was purchased and Rifampicin and Pyrazinamide received out of assistance provided by Swedish International Development Agency was supplied to 18 TB Centres as in the country as a part of Pilot studies. It is proposed to purchase some limited quantities of Rifampicin and Pyrezinamide also during the year 1986-87 for use in more number of District TB Centres in some States.

Phasing out of steam locomotives

759. SHRI T. CHANDRASEKHAR *REDDY*: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission has asked the Railways to phase out the steam locomotives as early as possible preferably not later than 2,000 AD., and to accelerate the pace of electrification for conservation of liquid fuels and steam efficiency energy utilisation;

(b) if so, what are the details of the project sent by the Planning Commission; and

(c) what steps Government have taken or propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) The Seventh Five Year Plan document envisages acceleration of the programme of conversion from steam to diesel and electric traction and completely phasing out of steam locomotives latest by the year 2,000 A.D. The Plan also envisages electrification of 3,400 route kilometres of track. Railways are taking necessary action for implementing these objectives.